

Policy 7.01 Plan and Progress Report

Updated 03/09/2012

Region 1 / Yakima DCS

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

Annual Due Date: April 2 (Submit Regional Plan to the Assistant Secretary) and April 30 (submit Assistant Secretary's Plan to OIP).

Implementation Plan				Progress Report
(1) Goals/Objectives	(2) Activities	(3) Expected Outcome	(4) Lead Staff and Target Date	(5) Status Update for the Fiscal Year
1. Maximize the efficiency of communication between the Yakima DCS Field Office and the Yakama Nation	1.1 Increase use of updated DCS informational flyers, newspaper articles, and radio features	Improve customer services through increased information on child support services.	Abel French, Juan Ramirez -Ongoing	Flyer was developed and posted at various locations throughout the Yakama Nation. Follow up on developing radio public service announcements and newspaper articles about DCS services on hold because of budget limitations.
	1.2 Conduct a child support outreach forum at the Seelatsee Auditorium on the Yakama Nation Reservation. While the forum will be open to the public, it will target the Yakama Nation and the Native American community.	Educate and inform attendees about child support services and processes. Follow up with specific case requests as needed.	Abel French, Juan Ramirez, Dennis Gough, Sylvia Flores -Fall, 2011	Will solicit participation from the DCS Tribal Relations Team in this outreach effort.
	1.3 Meet with Yakama Nation Administrators regularly including representatives from OIP to develop DCS – Region 2 DSHS Administrative Policy 7.01 Plan.	Foster consultation, communication and collaboration.	Sylvia Flores, Phillip Ambrose, Dennis Gough, Abel French, Juan Ramirez -Ongoing	Presently most meetings occur informally when TL Abel French is at the Yakama Nation DCS Outstation on Thursdays. Abel met with Yakama Nation Court Judges 11/04/2010. Abel & Dennis attended Joint 7.01 meeting May 18, 2010 with DSHS, Children's Administration, DCS, CSD and the Nak Nu We Sha Program, Stella Washines, Tribal Councilwoman also attended. Abel and Sylvia attended a Children's Administration 7.01 meeting on Jan. 27, 2011. We were given an opportunity to say a few words about DCS services to the YN to three Tribal Council Members present, Ms. Lavina Washines, Ms. Athena Sanchey and Mr. Donald Isadore. February 11, 2011 Abel, Dennis and Sylvia met with Tribal Judge Hillary Renick, Law & Order Committee Members; Mr. Richard George, Mr. Gerald Lewis; Appellate Judge Ne'sha Jackson, Tribal Prosecutor David Lees and

			<p>OIP Phillip Ambrose. We shared a binder of the child support history with DCS and the YN from 1990 to present. On March 10, 2011 Abel and Sylvia attended the CSD 7.01 meeting held in the YN Tribal Council Chambers. We were able to speak to Tribal Council Member Stella Washines about our plan to request a DCS 7.01 meeting. Ms. Washines was agreeable, indicated this may be a very good time to address child support. She said Tribal Prosecutor David Lees is pursuing approval for moving forward with a federal grant application for a Tribal IV-D program. On May 26, 2011 Abel, Dennis & Juan had lunch with Chief Judge Rennick and answered many questions the Judge had. On June 9, 2011 Abel & Juan attended Nation 155th Treaty Day Commemoration, Cultural Center 31st Anniversary & Parade, Book Signing-Introducing Published Yakama author Say'yepum Ah-toot-wy, Stacy Speedis. July 29, 2011 Dennis Gough, and Abel French met with the Appellate Court Judges of the Yakama Nation. We were there at their invitation. The judges present were Ne'sha Jackson, Evens Dick, Patricia Milam, Lonnie Selam, and Court Administrator Rose Sampson. Dennis gave a 5-10 minute overview of our child support program as it pertains to non-tribal members. This served as a foundation for Abel who gave a presentation more specific to what is going on with the Yakama Nation. The Judges had some good questions. They were attentive and seemed to be interested in what we had to present. We left several pamphlets and copies of the Washington State Child Support Schedule as resources. September 22, 2011 DCS is invited by the YN Tribal Council to meet to discuss DCS collection efforts, in particular driver's license suspension actions. DCS Interim Director, Wally McClure; Yakima DCS District Manager, Sylvia Flores; DCS Tribal Relations Team (TRT) Manager, Brady Rosnagle; and Support Enforcement Officer and DCS Tribal Liaison, Abel French met with YN Tribal Council Chairman, Harry Smiskin, YN attorney, George Colby in an effort to find common ground. Also in attendance was Chairwoman of the</p>
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	<p>1.4 Facilitate Genetic Testing for Yakama Nation parents that have a DCS case and are required by Tribal Court Order to obtain genetic testing.</p> <p>1.5 Participate in planning and implementation of the Native American Career Fair, Tribal WorkFirst Conference, Local Planning Area (LPA) meetings, Special Coming Together Conference sponsored by the Yakama Nation.</p>	<p>Establish paternity for more children and offer easier accessibility to DCS program services.</p> <p>Increase DCS program knowledge in the Yakama Nation community. Make DCS services more accessible.</p>	<p>Abel French, Juan Ramirez, -Ongoing</p> <p>Sylvia Flores, Dennis Gough, Abel French, Juan Ramirez -Ongoing</p>	<p>Abel French is recognized at the Yakama Nation as a resource in child support matters. He continues to be invited to contribute a DCS program service report that has been included in the YN Annual Report from 2007 to 2011.</p>
<p>2. <i>Ensure efforts are made to recruit/hire American Indian staff reflective of the service population.</i></p>	<p>2.1 Distribute recruitment bulletins and job announcements to the Yakama Nation Dept. of Personnel.</p>	<p>Notifications of job openings become available. A diverse workforce is hired.</p>	<p>Dennis, Gough and DSHS Human Resources Division</p>	<p>The DSHS/ESA/DCS hiring freeze was recently lifted. However, an approval process requirement is still in place. Yakima DCS was recently granted approval to hire a few Support Enforcement Officer 1-2 positions. In February, 2012 we provided a copy of the job posting as a public service announcement to the non-commercial YN radio, KYNR, 1490-AM radio .</p>
<p>3. <i>Identify outstanding issues/gaps in service and develop performance expectations, which can be implemented, monitored and evaluated.</i></p>	<p>3.1 Record and monitor the number of DCS customers that come into the DCS Outstation on Thursdays.</p> <p>3.1a Ensure 100% coverage at DCS Outstation at the Yakama Nation every Thursday of each week.</p>	<p>Improve accessibility to the Yakama Nation community of DCS services.</p> <p>Timely and accessible DCS customer service.</p>	<p>Abel French, Juan Ramirez -Ongoing</p> <p>Abel French, Juan Ramirez -Ongoing</p>	<p>We provide direct DCS services to customers from 9am to 3pm every Thursday at the DCS Outstation located on the Yakama Nation Indian Health Services Annex in Toppenish, WA. We average 12 customers per Thursday at the DCS Outstation. Oftentimes referrals are made to other social services pending the needs of the DCS customers.</p> <p>Abel and Juan have security clearance through the Yakama Nation Homeland Security Office to have access to the Yakama Nation Agency. The DCS Outstation at the Yakama Nation permits DCS the ability to provide direct services to customers in privacy.</p>

	3.2 Update Indian Owned Business and Enterprise List for Yakama Nation to be included in SEMS Web TI Screen.	Update periodically as needed.	Abel French & Juan Ramirez -Ongoing	The SEMS Web information on Yakama Nation owned businesses' is current.
4. <i>Act as a resource to the Yakama Nation's ability to develop their own IV-D program & respect the sovereignty of the Yakama Nation</i>	4.1 Facilitate the discussions of local Tribal-State agreements.	Act as a resource to the Yakama Nation and Region X Office of Support Enforcement.	Sylvia Flores, Dennis Gough, Abel French, Phillip Ambrose	Former Tribal Prosecutor, David Lees submitted a proposal to the YN Law & Order Committee to consider applying for federal funding for a Tribal IV-D Program. When the Yakama Nation is interested in pursuing this effort we can offer the YN our services to facilitate a meeting with the DCS Tribal Relations Team and the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement as potential resources to the Yakama Nation.
	4.2 Identify Yakima Field Office data for tribal cases involving multiple jurisdictions.	Identify number of cases/children.	Abel French & Juan Ramirez	Determine number of cases that would benefit from an agreement involving cross-jurisdiction of Tribal cases.